



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas College of Music

Guest Artist Residency | Tuesday, February 13, 2024

MERZ TRIO

**Brigid Coleridge, violin • Julia Yang, cello
Amy Yang, piano**

RESIDENCY SCHEDULE

in collaboration with the Dallas Chamber Music Society

10 am - 1 pm: Masterclass Voertman Hall

2:30-5:30 pm: Composition Student Workshop..... Voertman Hall
Readings/feedback on new works and individual
coachings of student chamber music ensembles

5:30 pm: Dinner

7:30 pm: Roundtable Discussion/Q&ARecital Hall
Discussion on the "modern chamber music ensemble"
innovating the field, creating new collaborations,
moving the tradition

**Monday, February 12, 2024, Caruth Auditorium, SMU
6:45 pm: Pre-Concert Lecture • 7:30 pm: Concert**



Ambiguous Traces (2016)..... Narong Prangcharoen (b. 1973)

10:00 am — Center Woodwind Quintet • Darrel Hale, coach

Di Cao, flute • Hyungju Oh, oboe • Brandon Von, clarinet
Samuel Himes, horn • Victoria Donaldson, bassoon

from *Dream Track* (1992).....Peter Sculthorpe (1929–2014)
I. Lontano

10:35 am — Verdehr Trio • Liudmila Georgievskaya, coach

Arsenio Peña, violin • Charlotte MacDonald, clarinet
Wenwen Qu, piano

from *String Quartet No. 3 in D Major, Opus 44, No. 1* (1838)..... Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)
I. Molto allegro vivace

11:10 am — Hyacinth Quartet • Chloé Kiffer, coach

Pei Jhen (Kelly) Huang, violin • Ella Curb, violin
Shanya Chynwat, viola • Ethan Nelson, cello

from *String Quartet No. 3 in F Major, Opus 73* (1946).....Dmitri Shostakovich (1906–1975)
III. Allegro non troppo

11:45 am — Kintsugi Quartet • Horacio Contreras, coach

Gabriel Parker, violin • Jose Miguel Guillén, violin
Kelsey Felton, viola • Eric Rau, cello

from *Piano Trio in B-flat Major, "Archduke," Opus 97* (1811)Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)
I. Allegro moderato

12:20 — Marie A. Moore Trio • Pamela Mia Paul, coach

Hyun Jung Kim, violin • Qiaojiannan (Gamma) Ma, cello
Shengjie Liu, piano

about our guest artists

Hailed as "entrancing" (*BBC Music Magazine*) and "artists in the deepest sense of the word" (*CutCommon*), **Merz Trio**, winners of the Naumburg (2021), Concert Artists Guild (2019), Fischhoff (2019) and Chesapeake (2018) competitions, and recipients of a Salon de Virtuosi Career Grant (2023), have been lauded for their "stunning virtuosity... fresh and surprising interpretations" (*Reading Eagle*), and "perfection of intonation and ensemble" (*Hudson Review*). Merz Trio are passionately committed to reshaping the narrative of classical music through vibrantly dynamic programming and wide-ranging interdisciplinary collaboration. Their narrative programming style juxtaposes classical standards, new music, and their own arrangements of familiar and forgotten works, fluidly interwoven and guided with speaking from the Trio's members. Their interdisciplinary collaborations include ongoing projects with directors Emma Jaster and Jon Levin, dancer Caroline Copeland, and Sandglass Puppet Theater.

The Trio are equally known for their more immersive integrations of music and text in performance, ranging from their recital-theater piece built around Shakespeare's *Macbeth* ("Those Secret Eyes"), to their debut album interweaving Ravel's Trio with short pieces, poems, and diaries of the era (*Ink*, August 2021), presented in a live concert format ("Ink Spills") for the 2021–2022 season. Finally, in their prolific arranging, the Trio are committed to uplifting overlooked voices from history, ranging from Hildegard von Bingen to Lili and Nadia Boulanger, from Joséphine Baker to Irish folk melodies.

This coming season, Merz Trio look forward to debuts at Tippet Rise, Duke Performances, CM Dallas, Coleman Chamber Music Association, the New Orleans Friends of Music and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Recent debuts have taken them to Carnegie Hall, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Chamber Music Houston, Philadelphia CMS, and the Schubert Club (St. Paul, MN), among other notable performances. Merz Trio have been encouraged in their explorations by numerous institutional homes around the world: New England Conservatory, Yellow Barn, Snape Maltings, Avaloch Farm Institute, the Naumburg Foundation, the Lake Champlain, Olympic, and Chesapeake music festivals, and the Fischhoff Competition, as well as many other venues and hosts around the United States, Australia, The Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Merz Trio operate as a nonprofit organization under Project Merz, Inc. and are currently represented by Concert Artists Guild.



Brigid Coleridge (violin)
Amy Yang (piano)
Julia Yang (cello)



Brigid Coleridge is an Australian violinist and poet currently based in the United States. She is a founding member of the award-winning Boston-based piano trio, the Merz Trio, with whom she has most recently been in professional residence at the New England Conservatory of Music. With the Trio, Brigid is a regular invitee to the Olympic, Lake Champlain and Chesapeake festivals and has undertaken residencies at Yellow Barn, Snape Maltings and Avaloch Farm Institute. Their first album *Ink* debuted in 2021 at #2 in the Classical charts. Notable concert debuts for the 2022/2023 season included the Concertgebouw and Carnegie Hall. Brigid has performed in Australia and Holland and at the Royal Albert Hall, Wigmore Hall, Jordan Hall, Kennedy Center and Purcell Room. Brigid holds a doctoral degree in music from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, where she worked on Beethoven's late Mass, the *Missa Solemnis*. In addition, Brigid holds an artist diploma and a master's degree in performance from the Royal College of Music, London. She graduated BA/BMus from the University of Melbourne following studies in English literature, French language and violin performance. Important music mentors include Donald Weilerstein, Daniel Phillips, Maciej Rakowski and Mark Mogilevski.

Praised by the *Washington Post* as a "jaw-dropping pianist who steals the show...with effortless finesse," pianist **Amy Yang** joined forces with the Curtis Symphony Orchestra under Osmo Vänskä playing Schumann's *Piano Concerto* at Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center in 2023. Additionally, she gave the world premiere of Richard Danielpour's *Four Portraits* for solo piano at the Curtis Institute of Music, where she is a faculty member and the associate dean of piano studies and artistic initiatives. She has performed in Wigmore Hall and Carnegie Recital Hall; at the Marlboro, Ravinia, Aldeburgh, Bravo! Vail, Chelsea, Olympic, and Ojai music festivals; Verbier Academy; Cal Performances; Caramoor; IMS Prussia Cove; Music from Angel Fire; and Chamber Music Northwest, among others. An episode on her by Emmy® Award-winning producer Jim Cotter's *Articulate* show aired on PBS in 2021. Ms. Yang is an alumna of the Curtis Institute of Music, the Juilliard School, and the Yale School of Music, where she received the Parisot Award for Outstanding Pianist and the Alumni Association Prize. Her past teachers include Li Qing, Timothy Hester, Claude Frank, Robert McDonald, and Peter Frankl.

Praised for "her sense of joyful virtuosity" (*South Florida Classical Review*) as a concerto soloist, **Julia Yang** is a dynamic and versatile cellist, founding member of the Merz Trio and former member of Carnegie Hall's Ensemble Connect and the New World Symphony. As a soloist, Ms. Yang was featured in spring 2019 on "Performance Today" as a young artist in residence and has garnered top prizes at the Lennox International Competition and Union League of Chicago's Young Artist Competition. She has performed as a concerto soloist with the New World Symphony Orchestra, Central Florida Symphony Orchestra, and Northwestern University Symphony Orchestra. She has performed throughout the United States and internationally in Europe, Australia and Canada. Festival appearances include Marlboro, Lake Champlain Chamber Music Festival, Yellow Barn, Perlman Chamber Music Program, Britten-Pears' Young Artist residencies, and Poland's Krzywowa-Music. Yang holds degrees from Northwestern University and the New England Conservatory, studying with Hans Jørgen Jensen, Laurence Lesser and Yeesun Kim. As educator and pedagogue, Yang finds particular joy in working with the younger generation of musicians as a cello instructor and chamber music coach at the University of Pennsylvania and at the College of the Holy Cross (Worcester, MA), and regularly gives cello and chamber music masterclasses throughout the United States.